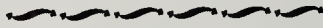


REFERENCES CITED

- CASEY, T. L. 1885. New genera and species of Californian Coleoptera. Proc. California Acad. Sci. 1:284-336.
- HORN, G. H. 1894. The Coleoptera of Baja California. Proc. California Acad. Sci., Ser. 2 4:302-449.
- LECONTE, J. L. 1863. New species of north American Coleoptera. Smith. Miscell. Coll. No. 167 p. 1-87.
- MOORE, IAN. 1937. A list of beetles of San Diego County, California. Oc. Pap. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist. No. 2 p. 1-109.
- MOORE, IAN, AND E. F. LEGNER. 1973. Speculation on the distribution of the southern California species of *Cafius* with a new record from the Salton Sea. Pan-Pac. Ent. 49:277-280.
- MOORE, IAN, AND E. F. LEGNER. 1976. Staphylinidae. In Cheng: Marine Insects. North Holland Publ. Co., Amsterdam, p. 521-551.



BOOK REVIEW

The beetles of America, by Richard Headstrom. 1977. A. S. Barnes and Company, Inc., P. O. Box 421, Cranbury, N.J. 08512. Hardbound, 488p., \$17.50.

Richard Headstrom took on quite an assignment when singlehanded he sat down to write, and illustrate, a guide to the beetles of America. This guide was prepared for the layman and may be useful also to high school biology teachers and to nature instructors. Twelve pages are devoted to the external morphology of beetles and the diagrams are clear and helpful. The diagram of the antenna is obviously patterned after the diagram in Comstock's *An Introduction to Entomology* and Headstrom uses the term *Clavola* (from Comstock) rather than the currently used term, *Flagellum*. The remainder of the Introduction includes material on food beetles eat, their eggs, hatching and development, molting, insect color, migration, and defense. The only key present is a dichotomous key to families which refers the reader to the page on which each families' general characteristics are discussed. For many of the families an outline diagram of a "typical" beetle is included. For each species presented, its scientific name, length, description, and distribution is given. A total of about 1200 species is included (this of course is but a fraction of the beetles found in the 48 contiguous states of the U.S.). Black and white diagrams of the elytra of about 500 species are depicted and about a dozen black and white photographs are included. The major shortcoming of this guide is that its title implies that the guide covers "the beetles of America" yet only a fraction of them are actually mentioned. The most meaningful way to cover this subject would be through a regional series of guides such as those planned by the Biological Research Institute of America, Inc. Such an approach to the identification of beetles in America is long overdue.

—Paul P. Shubeck